
Nile Green. *The Uses of Books in a Late Mughal Takiyya: Persianate Knowledge Between Person and Paper*

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Nile Green. « The Uses of Books in a Late Mughal *Takiyya*: Persianate Knowledge Between Person and Paper ». *Modern Asian Studies*, vol. 44, n° 2, 2010, p. 241-65.

- 1 This article addresses the relation between books and the concept and organization of knowledge in the late Mogul Era. An analysis of how books were used in a Sufi lodge in Awrangabad connects the shifts observed there to the broader political context of the expansion of Mogul power and its complex bureaucracy. The chief aim of this article is to point to a crucial tension and transition in the Persianate culture of early modern India between “anthropocentric” and “bibliocentric” approaches to the circulation of knowledge. Exploring the religious and bureaucratic aspects of the production and consumption of books, the author emphasizes how the growing scale of the Mogul bureaucracy led to changes in the modes and means of knowledge. The intensification and diffusion of bureaucratic forms of writing led to a conceptual rearrangement of knowledge, a shift from programs of textual and non-textual learning under the close supervision of a master to the more autonomous, bibliocentric patterns of education based on the private reading and copying of books.

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